

# UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Investigations Nos. 731-TA-1015-1016 (Final)

## POLYVINYL ALCOHOL FROM GERMANY AND JAPAN

### DETERMINATIONS

On the basis of the record<sup>1</sup> developed in the subject investigations, the United States International Trade Commission (Commission) determines, pursuant to section 735(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1673d(b)) (the Act), that an industry in the United States is threatened with material injury<sup>2</sup> by reason of imports from Japan of polyvinyl alcohol ("PVA"),<sup>3</sup> provided for in subheading 3905.30.00 of

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<sup>1</sup> The record is defined in sec. 207.2(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.2(f)).

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to section 735(b)(4)(B) of the Act (19 U.S.C. § 1673d(b)(4)(B)), the Commission further determines that it would not have found material injury by reason of the subject imports from Japan but for any suspension of liquidation of entries of that merchandise.

<sup>3</sup> For purposes of these investigations, PVA is defined as all polyvinyl alcohol hydrolyzed in excess of 80 percent, whether or not mixed or diluted with commercial levels of defoamer or boric acid, except as excluded from the definition. The following forms of polyvinyl alcohol are excluded from the definition of PVA:

- (1) PVA in fiber form;
- (2) PVA with hydrolysis less than 83 mole percent and certified not for use in the production of textiles;
- (3) PVA with hydrolysis greater than 85 percent and viscosity greater than or equal to 90 cps;
- (4) PVA with a hydrolysis greater than 85 percent, viscosity greater than or equal to 80 cps but less than 90 cps, certified for use in an ink jet application;
- (5) PVA for use in the manufacture of an excipient or as an excipient in the manufacture of film coating systems which are components of a drug or dietary supplement, and accompanied by an end-use certification;
- (6) PVA covalently bonded with cationic monomer uniformly present on all polymer chains in a concentration equal to or greater than one mole percent;
- (7) PVA covalently bonded with carboxylic acid uniformly present on all polymer chains in a concentration equal to or greater than two mole percent, certified for use in a paper application;
- (8) PVA covalently bonded with thiol uniformly present on all polymer chains, certified for use in emulsion polymerization of non-vinyl acetic material;
- (9) PVA covalently bonded with paraffin uniformly present on all polymer chains in a concentration equal to or greater than one mole percent;
- (10) PVA covalently bonded with silan uniformly present on all polymer chains certified for use in paper coating applications;
- (11) PVA covalently bonded with sulfonic acid uniformly present on all polymer chains in a concentration level equal to or greater than one mole percent;
- (12) PVA covalently bonded with acetoacetylolate uniformly present on all polymer chains in a concentration level equal to or greater than one mole percent;
- (13) PVA covalently bonded with polyethylene oxide uniformly present on all polymer chains in a concentration level equal to or greater than one mole percent;
- (14) PVA covalently bonded with quaternary amine uniformly present on all polymer chains in a concentration level equal to or greater than one mole percent; and
- (15) PVA covalently bonded with diacetoneacrylamide uniformly present on all polymer chains in a concentration level greater than three mole percent certified for use in a paper application.

(continued...)

the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that have been found by the Department of Commerce (Commerce) to be sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV).<sup>4</sup> The Commission also determines, pursuant to section 735(b) of the Act, that an industry in the United States is not materially injured or threatened with material injury, and the establishment of an industry in the United States is not materially retarded, by reason of imports from Germany of PVA that have been found by Commerce to be sold in the United States at LTFV.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Commission instituted these investigations effective September 5, 2002, following receipt of a petition filed with the Commission and Commerce by Celanese, Ltd. of Dallas, TX and E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. of Wilmington, DE. The final phases of the investigations were scheduled by the Commission following notification of preliminary determinations by Commerce that imports of polyvinyl alcohol from Germany and Japan were being sold at LTFV within the meaning of section 733(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. § 1673b(b)). Notice of the scheduling of the final phases of the Commission's investigations and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the *Federal Register* of March 7, 2003 (68 *FR* 11144). The hearing was held in Washington, DC, on May 8, 2003, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

The Commission transmitted its determinations in these investigations to the Secretary of Commerce on June 18, 2003. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 3604 (June 2003), entitled *Polyvinyl Alcohol from Germany and Japan: Investigations Nos. 1015-1016 (Final)*.

By order of the Commission.

Marilyn R. Abbott  
Secretary to the Commission

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<sup>3</sup> (...continued)

<sup>4</sup> Vice Chairman Jennifer A. Hillman made a negative determination with respect to Japan.